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## THE NEW CHAPTER AT AMES

### HISTORICAL SKETCH

The initial step which led to the founding of the Iowa State College was taken by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa in 1858 when they authorized the appointment of a commission to select and purchase a site for the institution. This was accomplished in 1859, the location being fixed at Ames. Due to the Civil War, no further steps were taken until 1862 when the institution was designated as the recipient of the congressional land grant to the state. The college formally opened its doors to students March 17, 1868, and conferred the first degree in 1872.

Practically since the beginning of instruction opportunity has been afforded for graduate work. Much of the inspiration for this early development was due to the energy of Dr. Charles E. Bessey, who was for the first fifteen years head of the Department of Biology. Under him Dr. Herbert Osborn of Ohio State University and Dr. J. C. Arthur of Purdue University received their first graduate training. In recent years the graduate work and research activities of the institution have been greatly multiplied. In 1913 the graduate school was reorganized, and a graduate faculty authorized and placed in charge.

It is the policy of the Iowa State College definitely to encourage research on the part of the various faculties and staffs. This has been manifested by the specific appropriation of funds, for use by staff members in research, by the building and equipment of laboratories specifically for the research work of the staff, by the utilization of the physical plant and resources of the Agricultural and Engineering Experiment Stations, by the appointment and support of research professorships in the college, and by the creation of research positions in which the majority devote their time entirely to the prosecution of their investigations and the direction of the work of graduate students. The graduate enrollment for the current college year (1921-22) is to date (October 1, 1921) three hundred twenty-five.

An active research organization, the Osborn Club, has during the past several years done much to quicken interest and enthusiasm in this field. Its success and the evident growth of the graduate school

led a group of members of Sigma Xi in the faculty seriously to consider petitioning for a chapter of this organization. After mature deliberation the decision was reached that the time was opportune, a petition was prepared and submitted to the officers of the Society. Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee a charter was granted to the petitioners providing for the establishment of a chapter at the Iowa State College. The charter was voted at the Convention of Sigma Xi held in Chicago, December, 1920.

The charter granted by the Chicago convention was prepared by the national secretary in accordance with the instructions from the Executive Committee and on the basis of the list of names furnished by the committee at Ames and representing the enrollment of Sigma Xi men in the institution at that time. Circumstances postponed the installation of the chapter from spring until fall and the record of membership in the institution has been considerably enlarged. This is clear evidence of the policy of the institution that in looking for additions to the faculty it has secured such a large number of men who had already been elected to the Sigma Xi on the basis of their standing as investigators.

The charter reads as follows:

*To Whom It May Concern:*

Be it known that a charter for the establishment of a Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi in the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts is hereby granted to the following persons as Charter Members conveying to them and their duly elected associates and successors all the privileges conferred by the Constitution of the Society; provided that the Chapter shall have power to elect undergraduates to associate membership only:

Arthur Lawrence Bakke  
Francis Marsh Baldwin  
Elmer Darwin Ball  
Spencer Ambrose Beach  
Samuel Walker Beyer  
Frank Emerson Brown  
Percy Edgar Brown  
Robert Earle Buchanan  
Julia Trueman Colpitts  
Winfred Forrest Coover  
Jay Brownlee Davidson  
John Marcus Evvard  
Frederick Azel Fenton  
Fred Allen Fish

Almon Homer Fisher  
Ellis Ingham Fulmer  
Sidney Longman Galpin  
Henry Gilman  
Joseph Charles Gilman  
John Howell Griffith  
Bernard Wernick Hammer  
Harlan Woodbridge Johnson  
Joseph Vance McKelvey  
Henry Max McLaughlin  
Charles Curtis Major  
Anson Marston  
John Nathan Martin  
Irving E. Melhus

Charles Murray	Charles Henry Stange
Victor Emmanuel Nelson	Harold Stiles
Louis Hermann Pammel	Anna Helen Tappan
Raymond Allen Pearson	George Waddell Snedecor
George Waddell Snedecor	Thomas Franklin Vance
John Anderson Wilkinson	

In Witness Whereof the signatures of the President and Secretary and the Seal of the Society are hereunto affixed on this the Thirtieth day of December, in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred Twenty.

*President*, CLARENCE ERWIN MCCLUNG

*Secretary*, HENRY BALDWIN WARD

#### INSTALLATION OF THE CHAPTER

The installation of the chapter occurred on the afternoon of October 27, 1921, in the parlors of Alumni Hall on the campus at Ames.

Dr. C. E. McClung (University of Pennsylvania) national president of Sigma Xi and Dr. Henry B. Ward (University of Illinois), secretary, were present to conduct the ceremonies of installation. Dr. H. L. Reitz (University of Iowa) attended as a representative of the Iowa Chapter.

The following members of Sigma Xi were present at the installation. In each case is given the name of the chapter of Sigma Xi by which the person named was elected and the position now held at Iowa State College.

ARTHUR LAWRENCE BAKKE, Chicago	<i>Associate Professor of Plant Physiology</i>
FRANCIS MARSH BALDWIN, Illinois	<i>Associate Professor of Physiology</i>
NATHANIEL JOHN BEABER, Chicago	<i>Graduate Assistant in Chemistry</i>
FRANK EMERSON BROWN, Chicago	<i>Associate Professor of Inorganic Chemistry</i>
ROBERT EARLE BUCHANAN, Chicago	<i>Dean of the Graduate Faculty and Professor of Bacteriology</i>
JULIA TRUEMAN COLPITTS, Cornell	<i>Associate Professor of Mathematics</i>
WINFRED FORREST COOVER, Ohio	<i>Professor of Chemistry</i>
JAY BROWNLEE DAVIDSON, Nebraska	<i>Professor of Agricultural Engineering</i>
LAWRENCE WOOD DURRELL, Ohio	<i>Assistant Chief of Botanical Section, Agricultural Experiment Station</i>
JOHN MARCUS EVVARD, Illinois	<i>Professor of Animal Husbandry</i>
IVA ERNSBURGER, Nebraska	<i>Instructor in Mathematics</i>
DANIEL CLEVELAND FABER, Illinois	<i>Director, Engineering Extension</i>
FREDERICK AZEL FENTON, Ohio	<i>Associate Professor of Entomology</i>
FRED ALLEN FISH, Ohio	<i>Professor of Electrical Engineering</i>
ALMON HOMER FISHER, Washington	<i>Professor of Civil Engineering</i>
ELLIS INGHAM FULMER, Nebraska	<i>Associate Professor of Bio-chemistry</i>

SIDNEY LONGMAN GALPIN, Cornell	<i>Associate Professor of Geology</i>
WILLIAM GEORGE GAESSLER, Ohio	
<i>Chief of Chemical Section, Agricultural Experiment Station</i>	
JOSEPH CHARLES GILMAN, Wisconsin	<i>Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology</i>
CORNELIUS GOUWANS, Northwestern	<i>Assistant Professor of Mathematics</i>
JOHN HOWELL GRIFFITH, Wisconsin	<i>Professor of Civil Engineering</i>
JOSEPH EDWARD GUTHRIE, Minnesota	<i>Professor of Zoology</i>
BERNARD WERNICK HAMMER, Wisconsin	<i>Professor of Dairy Bacteriology</i>
BRUCE MAGILL HARRISON, Illinois	<i>Associate Professor of Zoology</i>
ANSON HAYES, Chicago	<i>Associate Professor of Analytical Chemistry</i>
HARLAN WOODBRIDGE JOHNSON, Wisconsin	<i>Associate Professor of Soils</i>
JOSEPH VANCE MCKELVEY, Cornell,	<i>Associate Professor of Mathematics</i>
MARTHA McDONALD, Chicago	<i>Instructor in Mathematics</i>
HENRY MAX McLAUGHLIN, Chicago	<i>Instructor in Chemistry</i>
CHARLES CURTIS MAJOR, Ohio	<i>Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering</i>
ANSON MARSTON, Cornell	<i>Dean of Engineering Faculty</i>
JOHN NATHAN MARTIN, Chicago	<i>Professor of Plant Morphology</i>
IRVING E MELHUS, Wisconsin	<i>Professor of Plant Pathology</i>
ELIZABETH WILHELMINA MILLER, Chicago	<i>Professor of Home Economics and</i>
<i>Director of Graduate Instruction in Home Economics</i>	
VICTOR EMMANUEL NELSON, Wisconsin	
<i>Assistant Professor of Physiological Chemistry</i>	
RUTH O'BRIEN, Nebraska	<i>Associate Professor of Textile Chemistry</i>
RAYMOND ALLEN PEARSON, Cornell	<i>President of Iowa State College</i>
HARRY WYATT RICHEY, Chicago	<i>Professor of Pomology</i>
ADOLPH SHANE, Nebraska	<i>Professor of Trades and Industries</i>
EDWIN RAYMOND SMITH, Illinois	<i>Professor of Mathematics</i>
GEORGE WADDELL SNEDECOR, Michigan	<i>Associate Professor of Mathematics</i>
HAROLD STILES, Northwestern	<i>Associate Professor of Physics</i>
ORLAND RUSSELL SWEENEY, Ohio State	<i>Professor of Chemical Engineering</i>
ANNA HELEN TAPPAN, Cornell	<i>Assistant Professor of Mathematics</i>
GEORGE ELLSWORTH THOMPSON, Indiana	<i>Associate Professor of Physics</i>
THOMAS FRANKLIN VANCE, Iowa	<i>Associate Professor of Psychology</i>
WALTER HOUSLEY WELLHOUSE, Kansas	
<i>Assistant Professor of Entomology and Zoology</i>	
FRED CONRAD WERKINTHIN, Texas	<i>Assistant Professor of Botany</i>
CHESTER HAMLIN WERKMAN, Purdue	<i>Graduate Assistant in Bacteriology</i>
JOHN ANDERSON WILKINSON, Ohio	<i>Professor of Physical Chemistry</i>
JAY WALTER WOODROW, Colorado	<i>Professor of Physics</i>

The petitioning group of members was called to order by President McClung. Seven members of the faculty were then introduced and initiated. The initiates were as follows:

SPENCER AMBROSE BEACH

*Vice-dean, Agricultural Faculty, Professor of Horticulture*

SAMUEL WALKER BEYER

*Dean, Faculty in Industrial Science, Professor of Geology*

PERCY EDGAR BROWN

*Professor of Soils*

HENRY GILMAN

*Associate Professor of Organic Chemistry*

CHARLES MURRAY

*Professor of Veterinary Research*

LOUIS HERMANN PAMMEL

*Professor of Botany*

CHARLES HENRY STANGE

*Dean, Veterinary Faculty, Professor of Veterinary Medicine*

President McClung spoke emphasizing the fact that the sole function and purpose of the Society of the Sigma Xi was the encouragement and promotion of research in the sciences. He further explained the purposes and ideals of the society and the functions which should be performed by the chapter about to be installed.

Secretary Ward then detailed the steps leading up to the granting of a charter to the petitioning group, these steps being the presentation to the Executive Committee of the Sigma Xi of data furnished by the petitioners, as follows:

- I. Letter in Endorsement of the petition from the President of Iowa State College endorsed also by the President of the State Board of Education of Iowa, the governing board of the college.
- II. The record of the petitioners.
- III. A statement of the condition of the Graduate College.
- IV. A formal petition for the granting of a charter.
- V. Bulletins of the Graduate College.

He announced that the petition had been favorably recommended to the Twenty-first Convention of the Society during the Convocation Week of 1920 and that a charter had then been unanimously voted by the Convention.

The charter properly engrossed was then presented to Professor W. F. Coover, chairman of the petitioning group.

During the election of officers for the chapter the national president and secretary officiated and the following were chosen to serve for the coming year or until their successors should be duly elected and qualify.

R. E. BUCHANAN	<i>President</i>
S. W. BEYER	<i>Vice-president</i>
JOHN M. EVVARD	<i>Secretary</i>
CHARLES MURRAY	<i>Treasurer</i>

These officers were then installed. President Buchanan spoke briefly thanking the national officers for their interest in the establishment of the chapter and pledging the newly-created organization to the ideals and purposes of Sigma Xi.

In order further to acquaint the initiates with the character of the society, the constitution was read by the secretary.

As a result of a unanimous request on the part of the chapter, Dr. McClung read a cytological paper on *The Chromosome Complex*.

D. H. L. Reitz, professor of mathematics, State University of Iowa, spoke briefly. He brought greetings to Ames from the sister state institution, and emphasized the advance in research spirit that should naturally follow the installation of a chapter of Sigma Xi.

At the conclusion of these exercises the chapter adjourned to the College Inn for the installation banquet. The president of the new chapter, Professor R. E. Buchanan, presided as toastmaster and called upon the speakers. Dr. C. E. McClung responded first on The New Chapter. Mr. Wallace McKee as the representative of the other honorary societies on the campus, from all of which delegates were in attendance at the banquet, extended greetings to the newly-organized chapter of Sigma Xi. Professor A. H. Fuller spoke effectively on Aspirations. The occasion was a most enjoyable one.

Following the banquet the newly created chapter attended in a body the Sigma Xi lecture complimentary to the graduate students and faculty of the college. The chapter president, R. E. Buchanan, introduced National President McClung who made formal announcement of the establishment of the chapter at Iowa State College. The illustrated lecture on *The Story of the Alaska Salmon* was ably given by Professor H. B. Ward. The wonderful portrayal of the vicissitudes of this excellent fish in Alaska waters together with suggested means for the conservation of this great source of fish food for the generations to come revealed most clearly the practical value which frequently follows upon carefully conducted scientific studies.

The installation of the chapter of Sigma Xi has brought a new responsibility, a new inspiration, and a new ideal to our campus. Naturally the promise of the fulfillment of the purposes of the Society of Sigma Xi quickens our step, and gives us a clearer glimpse of possible accomplishments in the fields of research.

October twenty-seventh in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-One is a heyday in the annals of this land grant college.

R. E. BUCHANAN  
JOHN M. EVVARD